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May 23, 2005

VIA E-FILING AND HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Gregory M. Sleet
United States District Court for the District of Delaware
J. Caleb Boggs Federal Building
844 North King St.
Wilmington, DE 19801

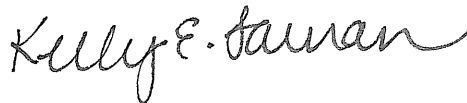
Re: Applera Corporation, et al. v. Thermo Electron Corp.;
Thermo Finnigan LLC v. Applera Corporation,
C.A. Nos. 04-1230 , 04-1505 and 05-110

Dear Judge Sleet:

I write to request a two-week extension of the deadline to file a proposed protective order in the above captioned cases. Thermo has requested the extension and counsel for Applera, MDS, and AB/Sciex ("AB/Sciex") agrees to this extension. The extension is needed because of the unavailability of Thermo's counsel to meet and confer with counsel for AB/Sciex. Thermo apologizes to the Court for the delay. The parties intend to submit a stipulation for the Court's consideration tomorrow.

As always, if the Court has any questions, counsel remain available at the Court's convenience.

Respectfully,



Kelly E. Farnan

KEF:bw

cc: Clerk of the Court (via e-filing and hand delivery)
 Josy W. Ingersoll, Esq. (via hand delivery)